

REMARKS

This application was filed with 31 claims. In an Office Action dated April 20, Claims 1 – 13, 16 – 19, and 21 – 25 have been rejected. Claims 14, 15 and 20 have been objected to. Claims 1 – 12, 14, 15, 20 and 26 – 31 have been cancelled. Claims 13 and 19 have been amended. Claims 32 – 35 have been added by amendment. Therefore, Claims 13, 16 – 19, 21 – 25, and 32 – 35 are pending in the Application. Reconsideration of the application based on the remaining claims as amended and arguments submitted below is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claims 14, 15 and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 14 and 15 depended from independent claim 13. Claim 20 depended from independent claim 19.

Claim 13 was amended to incorporate all the limitations of Claims 13 and 14. Claim 13 is now allowable because it is in independent form and has been rewritten to incorporate all the limitations of Claims 13 and 14, the base claim and the objected claim with allowable subject matter. Claim 14 was cancelled. Claims 16 – 18 depend from Claim 13, now allowable now allowable, and are thus themselves allowable.

Claim 32 was added by amendment and incorporates all the limitations of Claims 13 and 15. Claim 32 is allowable because it is in independent form and has been rewritten to incorporate all the limitations of Claims 13 and 15, the base claim

and the objected claim with allowable subject matter. Claim 15 was cancelled. Claims 33 – 35 were added by amendment and incorporate, respectively, the limitations of Claims 16 – 18. Claims 33 – 35 depend from Claim 32, now allowable now allowable, and are thus themselves allowable.

Claim 19 was amended to incorporate all the limitations of Claims 19 and 20. Claim 19 is now allowable because it is in independent form and has been rewritten to incorporate all the limitations of Claims 19 and 20, the base claim and the objected claim with allowable subject matter. Claim 20 was cancelled. Claims 21 – 25 depend from Claim 19, now allowable, and are thus themselves allowable.

Applicant respectfully further submits that Claims 13, 16 – 19, 21 – 25, and 32 – 35 now overcome any previous objections and are in condition for allowance.

Affirmation of Election of Claims

In a telephone interview of April 5, 2005, the Examiner required restriction of the claims to one of the invention claimed in Claims 1 – 25 or to the invention claimed in Claims 26 – 31. Applicant elected the invention in Claims 1 – 25 and Claims 26 – 31 were withdrawn from consideration during that interview. Claims 26 – 31 have now been cancelled.

Applicant hereby affirms election of the invention claimed in Claims 1 – 25.

Amendments to the Specification

The Examiner objected to two cited informalities in the specification. The Applicant has filed amended paragraphs correcting the cited informalities.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and § 103

Claims 1 – 13, 16 – 19, and 21 – 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hochstein. Claims 1 – 13, 16 – 19, and 21 – 25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being obvious in view of Hochstein, Kimball, and Dussureault. Applicant has cancelled claims 1 – 12. As shown above, Applicant has re-written Claims 13 and 19 so as to be allowable. Claims 16 – 18 and Claims 21 – 25 depend, respectively, from now allowable independent Claims 13 and 19.

The rejection of Claims 13, 16 – 18 and 21 – 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn.

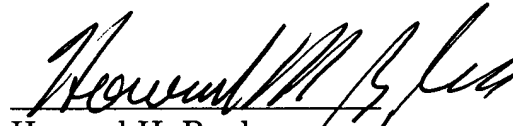
Applicant has commented on some of the distinctions between the cited references and the claims to facilitate a better understanding of the present invention. This discussion is not exhaustive of the facets of the invention, and Applicant hereby reserves the right to present additional distinctions as appropriate. Furthermore, while these remarks may employ shortened, more specific, or variant descriptions of some of the claim language, Applicant respectfully notes that these remarks are not to be used to create implied limitations in the claims and only the actual wording of the claims should be considered against these references.

Petition to Extend Time for Response

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), Applicant petitions the Commissioner to extend the time for responding to the April 20, 2005, Office Action for 1 month from July 20, 2005, to August 20, 2005. Applicant encloses herewith a check in the amount of \$120 made payable to the Director of the USPTO for the petition fee.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with the filing of this Response to Deposit Account 23-0035.

Respectfully submitted,


Howard H. Bayless
Registration No. 51,245
WADDEY & PATTERSON
A Professional Corporation
Customer No. 23456

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Howard H. Bayless
Waddey & Patterson, P.C.
Roundabout Plaza
1600 Division Street, Suite 500
Nashville, TN 37203
(615) 242-2400



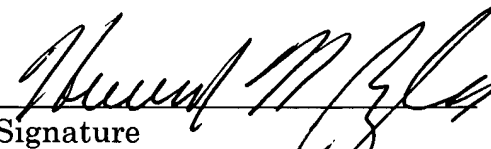
CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING

I hereby certify that this Response and Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

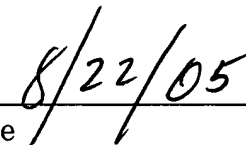
Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on August 22, 2005.

Howard H. Bayless



Signature
Registration Number 51,245



Date